

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5583

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Requiring the adjustment of census data for local redistricting to reflect the last known place of residence for incarcerated persons.

**Sponsors:** Senators Trudeau, Hunt, Das, Dhingra, Hasegawa, Keiser, Kuderer, Lovelett, Mullet, Nguyen, Nobles, Randall, Rivers, Saldaña, Stanford, Wellman and Wilson, C..

**Senate Committee on State Government & Elections**  
**House Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations**

**Background:** Local Redistricting. Each county, city, and special purpose district which elects its governing body based on internal director, council, or commissioner districts must adjust internal district boundaries based on information collected at each decennial census. Jurisdictions electing governing body members in 2022 were required to complete redistricting by December 31, 2021. Other jurisdictions must complete redistricting by November 15, 2022. In future redistricting cycles, all jurisdictions conducting redistricting will be required to complete the process by November 15th of each year ending in one.

Each district must:

- have as equal a population as possible;
- be as compact as possible; and
- be geographically contiguous.

Local redistricting plans may not be drawn purposely to favor or discriminate against any political party or racial group. To the extent reasonable, district boundaries must coincide with natural boundaries and preserve communities of interest.

Counting Persons in State Custody. Under Washington state law, persons incarcerated in state adult correctional facilities, committed to involuntary behavioral health treatment, or residing or placed in juvenile justice facilities are considered residents of their last known places of residence when calculating population for congressional and legislative redistricting. There is no corresponding provision for such persons with regard to local

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

redistricting.

**Summary:** Each unit of local government that conducts redistricting must deem each person as residing at the person's last known place of residence, rather than at a correctional, juvenile justice, or involuntary commitment facility, and conduct redistricting with data adjusted accordingly. The unit of local government must use the location of the facility where a person is incarcerated, committed, or resides if the person's last known address is out of state or cannot be determined.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

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|--------|----|----|
| Senate | 28 | 21 |
| House  | 88 | 7  |

**Effective:** June 9, 2022  
January 1, 2023 (Section 2)